

Chapter 6.7

JSC's policy for handling new or unique hardware or materials

This could be you . . .

A foreign mock-up fell from a crane because it wasn't properly rigged. All of the rigging equipment used was foreign. There was no policy to ensure that the Americans understood the foreign hardware or would handle it properly.

1. Applicability of this chapter

You are required to follow this chapter if you are:

- a. A line manager at any level and your organization handles new or unique items as defined in paragraph 2 below.
- b. Appointed to oversee any operations involving new or unique items. Paragraph 8 of this chapter lists your responsibilities.

2. New or unique items that this chapter covers

For this chapter, new or unique items are defined as any systems, components, materials, or substances that are unfamiliar to your organization. They can be spaceflight or institutional items. They can come from any foreign country, any U. S. company or organization, or any JSC organization. New or unique items include:

- a. Unfamiliar hardware or systems that will require material handling operations or that your organization will test, evaluate, modify, or repair.
- b. Unfamiliar substances or materials that your organization will use to make hardware or use in its processes.

3. Process for handling new or unique items

If your organization handles any new or unique items, you shall have a written process that describes how your organization handles these items. You may tailor your process to apply to the types of items your organization handles. The process must have responsible line manager signature approval. The process must address any of the following issues that apply to the type of items your organization handles. It must also assign persons to be responsible for those issues. The Safety and Test Operations Division and Clinic Services Branch can help you if needed. The process should:

- a. Identify what documentation needs to accompany new or unique items that are delivered to your organization. It should address how you handle the documents and where you

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keep them. English translations are necessary for foreign items. Such documentation should include the following, as necessary:

1. Drawings of the items.
 2. Procedures for handling, operating, or maintaining the items to include the use of hazardous materials and chemicals.
 3. Hazard analyses of the items, processes, and materials and recommendations for control of hazards (such as engineering solutions and PPE).
 4. A list of changes to items that you may have used previously.
- b. Identify what your organization requires for shipping and receiving the items. This should include the following, as necessary:
1. Shipping manifests.
 2. MSDSs on any hazardous materials.
 3. A list of hazardous materials and their quantities.
 4. Schedules for shipping and receiving the items.
 5. A list of items that don't comply with U.S. law (DOT, OSHA, and EPA), NASA requirements, or JSC requirements. You shall also decide how to meet those requirements or request variances.
 6. Specifications for containers and packing.
 7. A list of personnel designated to receive the items.
 8. Export authorizations.
- c. Define how your organization accepts new or unique items. This should include, as necessary:
1. A list of personnel authorized to accept the items.
 2. What inspections or reviews you do before accepting the items.
 3. What criteria you use to determine whether the items are acceptable.
 4. How you track the items while they are with your organization.
- d. Identify any special storage and handling requirements, such as:
1. Lifting requirements.
 2. Environmental and security restrictions during storage.
 3. Limited life considerations.
 4. Any other safety and health precautions.
- e. Define how you report problems with the items and whom you report them to. Such problems may include:
1. Nonconformances with any applicable requirements.

2. Mishaps that occur during handling, test, or training.
3. Damage to the items.
- f. Define how you train or certify anyone involved with handling the items, such as:
 1. Material and hardware handlers.
 2. Test team members.
 3. Flight crews.
- g. Define how you handle any excess items and byproducts, such as:
 1. Hazardous wastes.
 2. Unused hazardous materials.
 3. Recyclable materials.
- h. Define how you resupply any consumables used in processing the items such as batteries, oxygen, and fuel.
- i. Define how you inform management of the risks of handling the items.

4. Other requirements for handling new or unique items as a line manager

If your organization handles any new or unique items, you shall:

- a. Make sure your employees follow your process when handling new or unique items.
- b. Make sure that anyone who handles new or unique items understands the items and their interfaces with JSC equipment.
- c. Provide adequate precautions that safeguard both those handling the items and the items themselves.
- d. Make sure that all operations involving new or unique items follow JSC, NASA, and other federal requirements that apply (see paragraph 6 of this chapter).
- e. Make sure that configuration control is maintained on the items. This should be to a level that is appropriate for the type of items they are (flight, training, etc.).
- f. Assign someone at the project level to oversee any handling of new or unique items while the items are with your organization. This person will:
 1. Have primary responsibility for the new or unique items and their interfaces with JSC systems.
 2. Be accountable for all decisions involving the new or unique items.
- g. Fulfill the responsibilities listed in paragraph 8 of this chapter.

5. Special precautions for handling foreign items

If you handle new or unique items that are foreign, you shall:

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- a. Make sure you account for differences between Standard International units of measurement and English units, if necessary. The foreign items will use Standard International units. Your JSC equipment may use English units.
- b. Have English translations of all documents that accompany the items.
- c. Make sure you understand any cultural differences that may affect how you handle foreign items. Engineering conventions may differ between the U.S. and the country from which the items came.

6. Other requirements to ensure safety while handling new or unique items

Your process and any individual project procedures shall make sure that operations involving new or unique items follow these requirements, if they apply, or request variances.

<i>For operations involving . . .</i>	<i>Follow . . .</i>
General handling	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 29 CFR 1910, “Occupational Safety and Health Standards, General Industry,” and 29 CFR 1960, “Basic Program Elements for Federal Employee Occupational Safety and Health Programs and Related Matters,” (OSHA)• 49 CFR, “Transportation”• 40 CFR, “Protection of Environment”• JPR 1700.1, “JSC Safety and Health Handbook”• JSC 17773, “Preparing Hazard Analysis for JSC Ground Operations”
Lifting the items	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• NASA-STD-1740.9, “Standard for Lifting Devices and Equipment”• Chapter 8.5, “Lifting operations and equipment safety,” of this handbook
Pressurized systems	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• JPR 1710.13, “Design, Inspection, and Certification of Pressure Vessels and Pressurized Systems,” (current version)
Human research	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• JSC 20483, “JSC Institutional Review Board, Guidelines for Investigators Proposing Human Research for Spaceflight and Related Investigations”• NPD 7100.8, “Protection of Human Research Subjects”• 45 CFR 46, “Protection of Human Research Subjects”
Zero-gravity aircraft	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• JSC 22803, “JSC Reduced Gravity Program User’s Guide”
Spaceflight	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• NSTS 1700.7B, “Safety Policy and Requirements for Payloads Using the Space Transportation System”• NSTS 13830 “Implementation Procedure for NSTS Payloads System Safety Requirements”

<i>For operations involving . . .</i>	<i>Follow . . .</i>
Radioactive materials, lasers, and other ionizing and nonionizing radiation devices	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10 CFR, "U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Rules and Regulations," with particular emphasis on parts 19, 20, 30, 31, and 35 • 29 CFR 1910.97, "Non-Ionizing Radiation" • 29 CFR 1910.1096, "Ionizing Radiation" • Applicable consensus safety and health standards for ionizing and nonionizing radiation exposures • Approvals and guidance from the JSC Radiation Safety Committee and the Radiation Safety Office

7. Responsibilities of an organizational director or program manager for handling new or unique items

If your organization handles any new or unique items, you shall:

- Develop policies for handling new or unique items within your organization.
- Make sure processes for handling new or unique items are developed in your organization, as necessary, and are reviewed by safety and health professionals.
- Designate which level of management needs to approve processes or project procedures for handling new or unique items.

8. Responsibilities for those appointed to oversee handling of new or unique items

If you are appointed to oversee the handling of new or unique items, you are responsible for:

- Serving as the single point-of-contact for all decisions about the new or unique items and their interfaces with JSC systems.
- Developing project-specific procedures that follow all safety and health regulations applicable to your specific project.
- Determining what safety and health regulations apply to your project before you develop any project procedures. The Safety and Test Operations Division and the Clinic Services Branch can help you with this.
- Obtaining signature approval from the appropriate level of management on any project-specific procedures before anyone begins any work on the project.